



RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO JOINTLY DEVELOP A CITY ANTI-BULLYING POLICY TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

WHEREAS, a recent poll of Hawaii adults found that three-quarters of those polled opined that bullying was either a "major problem" or a "large problem" in Hawaii schools today and 37 percent stated that they had been personally bullied while at school; and

WHEREAS, that same poll defined bullying as "unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance," including "making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally and excluding someone from a group on purpose"; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control's ("CDC") 2011 "Youth Risk Behavior Study" indicated that in the state of Hawaii, 41 percent of middle school students reported being the victim of bullying and one out of 15 high school students, approximately two per class, missed at least one day of school in the last 30 days out of fear of being bullied; and

WHEREAS, in the state of Hawaii, approximately one in five high school students said that they had been bullied on school property within the last 12 months, while 15 percent of high school students and 24 percent of middle school students reported being cyber-bullied by classmates; and

WHEREAS, the CDC's 2011 survey of Hawaii schools also concluded that our high school students rank the second highest and our middle school students rank the highest in the nation in regards to making a suicide plan as a result, in part, to the bullying inflicted upon them; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the State Legislature enacted Act 214 which requires monitoring for compliance with any state of Hawaii, Department of Education ("DOE") administrative rules or statutes governing bullying, cyberbullying, and harassment; and

WHEREAS, the DOE website states that the DOE "is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable learning atmosphere for students, families and educators" and employs "a host of initiatives to prevent bullying and harassment in [Hawaii's] schools"; and



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 14-145, FD1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the DOE has also implemented programs that include the gathering and analysis of bullying-related data, developing professional staff training focusing on anti-bullying tools, and employing strategies to effectively involve both students and their communities in combating bullying; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation's ("DPR") Summer Fun Program ("Program") is the largest of its kind in the state, serving over 10,000 school age children and teens annually during the months of June and July at over sixty sites island-wide; and

WHEREAS, the Program's curriculum for teens is designed to promote physical, emotional and social well-being and one of its goals is to provide opportunities for teens to participate in recreational activities that bolster their self-esteem and compassionate empathy for others; and

WHEREAS, not only are teens able to attend the Program as enrolled participants, but they are also eligible to apply for the Junior Leader program where they assist adult Summer Aides, facilitate Program activities, and are responsible for supervising and mentoring Program participants; and

WHEREAS, along with the Program, DPR offers a wealth of community-based recreational activities for children and teens throughout the year, including classes in aquatics, arts and crafts, creative expression and drama, ethnic and cultural activities, sports, music and dance, outdoor recreation and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, in collaboration with other governmental entities and organizations, DPR's Children and Youth Unit has developed and provided training for its Recreation Directors and Summer Aides in the field of Bullying Prevention; and

WHEREAS, the current director has a wealth of experience in developing and implementing an Anti-Bullying Policy for the Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation Division, in the state of Utah; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Human Resources to jointly develop an Anti-Bullying policy to protect children and youth participating in City-administered programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a City Anti-Bullying policy may include, but not be limited to:



RESOLUTION

- Mandatory training classes for all Department of Parks and Recreation employees and other City employees who have direct contact with children and youth to enable such employees to immediately recognize incidents of bullying, recognize signs of a child affected by bullying, develop intervention strategies, monitor the identified problem site, and formulate a referral plan for supportive services;
- A procedure for anonymous reporting of bullying behavior; and
- A City protocol to process reports of bullying that includes a prompt investigation by facility staff or program coordinator; a Bullying Incident Report, and a report of the conclusion and recommendations from the investigation to be provided to the Parks and Recreation administration. The protocol may also include an incident follow up with private meetings with the victim and aggressor and their parents for resolution of conflict and possible referral to appropriate services;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in its development of a City Anti-Bullying policy, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Human Resources should give consideration to include the following:

- Neutral, professionally-trained experts to assist in the determination and impacts placed on the victim, bystanders and bully;
- Mediation when victims and their family feel that their child's safety is compromised;
- Key policies and procedures recommended by Stopbullying.gov; and
- A process that includes the appropriate checks and balances and transparency in the process without jeopardizing confidentiality and the child's rights;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in its development of a City Anti-Bullying policy, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Human Resources shall consult with individuals and organizations with the appropriate expertise and to consult with community resources such as the Department of Education, the Hawaii Youth Services Network and Mental Health America of Hawaii; and



RESOLUTION

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Human Resources shall submit its joint report on the status of the development of a City Anti-Bullying policy to the Council no later than December 1, 2014; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Director of the Department of Human Resources, Hawaii Youth Services Network, and Mental Health America of Hawaii.

INTRODUCED BY:

Ron Menor

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

June 23, 2014
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 14-145, FD1

Introduced: 06/23/14 By: RON MENOR

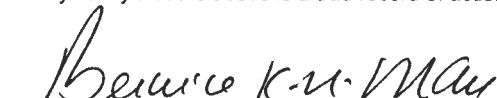
Committee: PARKS AND CUSTOMER
SERVICES

Title: RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO JOINTLY DEVELOP A CITY ANTI-BULLYING POLICY TO
PROTECT CHILDREN AND YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

07/22/14	PARKS AND CUSTOMER SERVICES	CR-217 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION.
08/13/14	COUNCIL	RESOLUTION AMENDED TO FD1. 9 AYES: ANDERSON, CHANG, FUKUNAGA, HARIMOTO, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, PINE. CR-217 AND RESOLUTION 14-145, FD1 WERE ADOPTED. 9 AYES: ANDERSON, CHANG, FUKUNAGA, HARIMOTO, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, PINE.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.


BERNICE K. N. MAU, CITY CLERK


ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER